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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NORTHERN SYDNEY AREA HEALTH SERVICE [AU/AU]; Block 4, Level 3, St Leonards, NSW 2065 (AU).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): HUNYOR, Stephen,

Nicholas [AU/AU]; 119 St Johns Avenue, Gordon, NSW 2032 (AU). PLEKHANOV, Serguei, Michael [AU/AU]; 10/17 Dural Street, Hornsby, NSW 2077 (AU). HUANG, Yifei [AU/AU]; 30/2 Mcmillian Road, Artarmon, NSW 2064 (AU).

(74) Agent: DAVIES COLLISON CAVE; Anthony Smeeton, Level 10, 10 Barrack Street, Sydney, NSW 2000 (AU).

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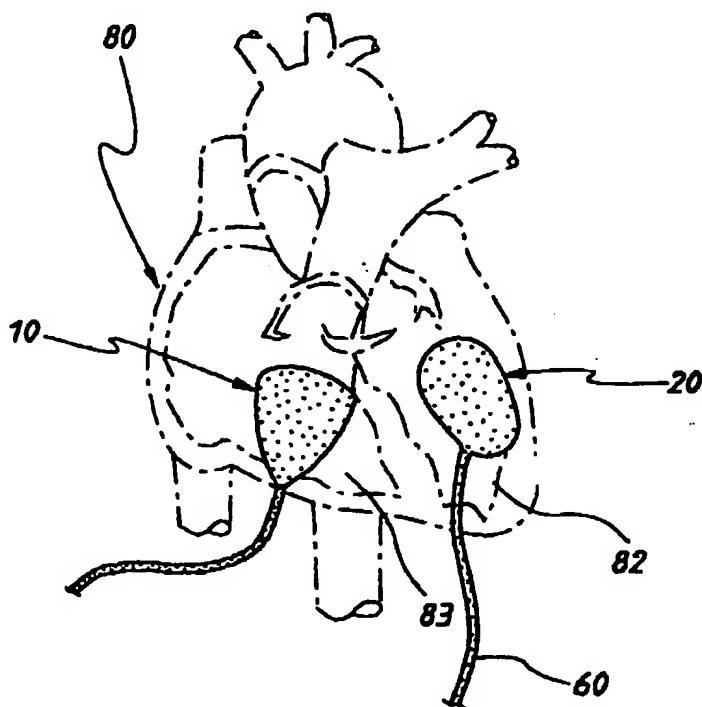
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(54) Title: AN ASSIST DEVICE FOR THE FAILING HEART



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(57) Abstract: A heart actuator device for use in heart assist apparatus, which device includes a paddle-like main body. The main body has a heart compressing wall, which in use is adapted to be affixed to at least a region of the heart, and a distal wall, which in use is adapted to be distal that region of the heart. The heart compressing wall is movable in a direction relatively away from the distal wall, so as, in use to compress at least that region of the heart thereby assisting movement of the heart wall.